

“Pray For A Great Harvest”

Matthew 9:35-38

35 And Jesus was going about all the cities and the villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. 36 And seeing the multitudes, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. 38 “Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.”

Matthew 9:35-38

1. **With Jesus, see the distressed multitudes as abundant harvest (v.35).** (Feel their pain; see His harvest.)

- He saw they were “distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd” (v. 35).
- “He had compassion” on them (v.35) (Lost sheep Matt. 10:6).
- Following Jesus and telling His Good News brings spiritual transformation.

2. **Pray the Lord of the harvest to send workers (v.38).**

(Committed disciples become qualified workers.)

- “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few” (v.37).
- “Pray the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest” (v.38).
 - ◊ The harvest is immense. Only God can do His work. We must pray that He prepares and sends workers.
- Pray for workers in His kingdom. Learning disciples become sent apostles who depend on God to deliver and heal.

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- Pray for workers in His kingdom. Learning disciples become sent apostles who depend on God to deliver and heal.

3. Persevere to establish Jesus' kingdom (Matthew 10).

(Kingdom character in and through workers.)

- Proclaim "The kingdom of God is near."
- Sent as "sheep among wolves" (Matt. 10:16), even family members (Matt. 10:21, 35-37) - amidst opposition.
- "The Spirit of your Father speaks in you" (Matt. 10:19-20) - His authority.
- "Be shrewd and innocent" - character (Matt. 10:16) of purity, wisdom with integrity.
- "Don't be afraid" - courage (Matt. 10:19-26). What is hidden will be revealed (Matt. 10:26-27). You are more precious to God than sparrows (Matt. 10:31). All who publicly recognize Jesus, He will recognize before His Father (Matt. 10: 32-33). Those who receive the messengers, receive the one who sends them.
- "Those who persevere to the end will be saved" (Matt. 10:22) - perseverance. Loyalty to Jesus can lead to persecution in this life, but it leads to the loyalty of Jesus on the Day of Judgment. "I tell you the truth, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for this city" (Matt. 10:13-15).
- We are called to unwavering commitment to bring the Gospel of the kingdom of our generation and to those who follow. Both the one who shares the message and who receives it will share the reward (Matt. 10:40-42).

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